

## Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HEREWITH FULL TEXT JACK ANDERSON AND LES WHITTEN COLUMN WASHINGTON POST MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 HEADED "PLO IS RAISING FUNDS IN U.S."

2. THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION IS RAISING FUNDS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR ITS GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES. ON AT LEAST ONE OCCASION, MONEY HAS BEEN ROUTED THROUGH THE PLO'S PERMANENT OBSERVER POST AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

3. THE FUNDS COLLECTED FROM PLO SYMPATHIZERS IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE BEEN DEPOSITED IN A PLO ACCOUNT OVERSEAS. THE ACCOUNT IS USED TO FINANCE PLO OPERATIONS, PRESUMABLY INCLUDING TERRORIST RAIDS AND AIRPLANE HIJACKINGS.

4. THROUGH SEVERAL INTERNEIDIARIES, WE HAVE OBTAINED PROOF OF THE CLANDESTINE PLO COLLECTIONS IN THE UNITED UNCLASSIFIED

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STATES. IT CONSISTS OF A THANK-YOU NOTE, WRITTEN IN

ARABIC ON THE STATIONERY OF THE PLO'S UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE. THE LETTER IS SIGNED BY JACOB OUBEDI, THE

PLO'S TOP FUND RAISER IN BEIRUT, AND IS ADDRESSED TO  
THE "PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA."

5. IT RELATES HOW THE VIRGINIANS HAD COLLECTED  
4,084 DOLLARS, WHICH OUBEDI SAID WOULD GO INTO THE  
"PLO NATIONAL CHEST." OUBEDI'S CODE NAME, BY THE WAY,  
IS "ABU KHALED."

6. "WE HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR OUR HOLY  
CAUSE AND A REVOLUTIONARY VICTORY," WROTE OUBEDI. HE  
NOTED THAT THE VIRGINIANS MONEY HAD BEEN TURNED OVER  
TO HIM BY THE PLO DIRECTOR IN NEW YORK, ZOHER TARAZI.

7. TARAZI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT OUBEDI HAD BEEN IN THE  
UNITED STATES AND THAT A FUND-RAISING EFFORT IS GOING  
ON. BUT HE INSISTED FORCEFULLY THAT "THEY ARE NOT  
USING THIS CHANNEL" FOR COLLECTING FUNDS.

8. WE POINTED OUT THAT OUBEDI'S LETTER WAS WRITTEN ON  
THE PLO'S U.N. STATIONERY. TARAZI THEN RECALLED THAT  
THE VIRGINIANS HAD DELIVERED THE 4,084 DOLLAR CHECK TO  
HIM, AND THAT HE HAD FORWARDED IT TO OUBEDI. "WE WERE  
JUST A PIGEON DROP," HE SAID.

9. ALTHOUGH TARAZI ADMITTED THE FUND DRIVE REACHED  
INTO MANY STATES, HE SAID MONEY FOR THE PLO WAS SCARCE.  
"WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE BILLIONS GOING TO OTHER  
PLACES," HE EXCLAIMED. HE ALLUDED TO THE MASSIVE  
FUND-RAISING EFFORTS IN BEHALF OF ISRAEL.

10. FOOTNOTE: THE PLO IS REGISTERED WITH THE JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT AS A FOREIGN AGENT BUT ONLY FOR "INFORMA-  
TION ACTIVITIES," NOT FUND COLLECTING. THERE IS NO  
REGISTRATION FOR OUBEDI.

11. KISSINGER'S CREDIBILITY -- SECRETARY OF STATE  
HENRY A. KISSINGER IS HELD IN SUCH LOW ESTEEM IN  
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SAUDI ARABIA THAT FORMER AMERICAN AMBASSADOR JAMES E.  
AKINS WROTE DESPAIRINGLY FROM JEDDAH: "I SOMETIMES  
WONDER HOW WE CAN MAINTAIN ANY INFLUENCE AT ALL IN  
THIS COUNTRY, AND I STRONGLY SUSPECT WE'RE ON A STEEP  
DOWNWARD PATH HERE."

12. AKINS CONFIDED HIS VIEWS IN SECRET MEMOS AND  
LETTERS, WHICH WE HAVE OBTAINED.

13. KISSINGER'S "CREDIBILITY IN SAUDI ARABIA," WROTE THE FORMER AMBASSADOR, "IS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME AS IT IS IN THE U.S. SENATE."

14. IN A SECRET "MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE," DATED AUG. 28, 1975, HE TOLD OF A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH SAUDI OIL MINISTER AHMED ZAKI YAMANI. THE POWERFUL OIL MINISTER COMPLAINED OF THE ".GAMES. THE U.S. IS PLAYING IN THE MIDDLE EAST."

15. KISSINGER'S TACTICS "HAD LONG BEEN DISCUSSED IN SAUDI ARABIA," AND THE SAUDIS HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS "PUTTING ALL (ITS) CARDS ON IRAN," YAMANI TOLD THE AMBASSADOR.

16. "IT WAS OBVIOUS," YAMANI EXPLAINED, "THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD ADOPTED A PRO-IRAN, ANTI-ARAB LINE, AND HE WONDERED IF PRESIDENT FORD WOULD FALL FOR IT. HE HOPED NOT."

17. THE SAUDIS HAD AS HIGH AN OPINION OF AKINS AS THEY HAD A LOW OPINION OF KISSINGER. THUS AKINS. RECENT DISMISSAL, HE WROTE, WAS VIEWED BY THE SAUDIS "AS A MOVE MORE AGAINST THEM THAN AGAINST ME."

18. IN A RECENT LETTER TO TREASURY SECRETARY WILLIAM E. SIMON, AKINS REPORTED: "THE SAUDIS INTENDED TO TAKE UP MY DISMISSAL WHEN KISSINGER WAS HERE AND MAKE A MAJOR ISSUE OF IT. I ASKED THEM, AS A PERSONAL FAVOR, NOT TO DO SO."

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19. BUT KISSINGER MISINTERPRETED THEIR FAILURE TO REACT, ACCORDING TO AKINS, "KISSINGER HAS CONCLUDED THAT THEIR NON-REACTION SHOWS THEY GOT HIS .MESSAGE. AND ARE FRIGHTENED."

20. ON THE CONTRARY, AKINS RELATED HOW THE SAUDIS HAD BEEN DERIDING KISSINGER. BECAUSE THE AMBASSADOR HAD TRIED TO DEFEND HIS BOSS, TWO TOP MINISTERS, YAMANI AND ISHAM NAZER "HAVE BEEN TAUNTING ME FOR THE LAST WEEK," HE REPORTED, "WITH MY PAST STAUNCH VIGOROUS DEFENSE OF KISSINGER. BOTH OF THEM CLAIM THEY SAW THROUGH HIM IMMEDIATELY AND TAKE GREAT JOY IN QUOTING VERBATIM MY DEFENSE OF HIM AND HIS POLICIES."

21. KISSINGER ALSO HAD THE MISTAKEN IDEA, ACCORDING

TO AKINS. SECRET LETTER, THAT HE HAD MADE A FAVORABLE  
IMPRESSION UPON THE LATE KING FAISAL. THE SAUDIS  
"FIND IT HILARIOUSLY FUNNY," WROTE AKINS, "THAT  
KISSINGER HAS CLAIMED THAT IT WAS HE HIMSELF THE KING

CAME TO LIKE AND TRUST."

22. FOOTNOTE: WE REACHED AKINS IN LONDON. HE CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD WRITTEN SECRET LETTERS AND MEMOS BUT REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THEM. END TEXT. ROBINSON

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